

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700223

A. List of Restoration Activities

This project proposes to protect and halt further OHV destruction to an occurrence of El Dorado manzanita, a Forest Service sensitive plant, and to enhance the recovery of the area that has been impacted by the OHV traffic. Off Highway Vehicles have traveled off of a Forest Service road, crushing and destroying the sensitive plants, as they have created an unauthorized hill climb. The Forest has attempted to stop this unauthorized use in the past. This project will further strengthen the closure by installing additional barrier rocks and replacing moved barrier rocks along a Forest Service road in order to eliminate the OHV use, by installing signs, placing straw mulch on the bare ground to allow the manzanita to recover, by conducting local education efforts, and by monitoring the site to assure the barrier is effective.

OHV impact to the population of El Dorado Manzanita, one of only five occurrences of this rare plant on the Eldorado National Forest (a total of only nine occurrences are believed to remain in existence) was first observed in 2000. In 2005, the Forest installed a series of large barrier rocks along 250 feet of FS road 11N88 to prohibit continued use of the unauthorized route, and signs were installed. Following that effort, OHV users have winched the barrier rocks out of place several times to gain access, further damaging the manzanita, and have removed signs. In 2006 and 2007, road 11N88 was closed by a gate and Forest Order, and additional barrier rocks and signs were installed. Straw mulch was spread over eroding areas at that time to reduce erosion. During travel management planning, road 11N88 was not designated for public use, in order to protect the El Dorado manzanita population. In July 2008, the area appeared to be recovering with new sprouts. In January 2009, several barrier rocks were again moved and vehicle tracks were observed leading from the closed road up into the manzanita.

The project will place new barrier rocks and will reinstall previously moved barrier rocks along the eastern edge of road 11N88 to prohibit unauthorized OHV use in the area. The rocks will be buried deeper where possible, so that they cannot be winched out of their position. Straw mulch or slash will be placed on the bare ground resulting from OHV impacts to reduce erosion and allow the manzanita to recover. The signs will be replaced to identify the site as a rehabilitation area, and a sign will be installed before the gate on road 11N88 at a point where a turn-around is feasible. This will inform the public that the road is closed ahead and that no turn around is available. The signage will also explain how few sites support this rare manzanita.

Both a botanist and patrollers will provide on-going monitoring. Photo monitoring points will be established and reoccupied. In addition, a local volunteer from the area will notify the Forest if vehicle use is evident.

B. How the Proposed Project Relates to OHV Recreation

Continued damage to this population of El Dorado manzanita may lead to further closures or restrictions, in order to protect the manzanita. This restoration project will protect this sensitive plant population and does not eliminate legal OHV use.

C. Size of Project Site

The area damaged by unauthorized OHV use is approximately 20 feet wide by 200 feet long, with several adjacent disturbed areas.

D. Monitoring and Methodology

This project includes ongoing monitoring by both a botanist and patrollers. The site will be visited initially at least weekly, in order to determine that the closure is effective and that OHVs are not re-entering the site. The frequency of monitoring will be adjusted, depending on the observations and evidence of vehicle presence in the area. In addition, the site will be monitored by a Forest Botanist following restoration efforts. This monitoring will consist of establishing photo-monitoring points which will be revisited at least two times each year for three years. Observations of the effectiveness of the closures and recovery of the El Dorado manzanita will be recorded.

E. List of Reports

Not Applicable

F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews

Not Applicable

G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area

As described under the monitoring section, the site will be visited by patrollers on a regular basis to assure the closure is still effective, that the signs are in place, and that the restored area has not received further impacts.

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1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments:

[Vicinity Map](#)

[Project Location Map](#)

2. Project-Specific Photos

Attachments:

[Photos 1 through 5](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - El Dorado Manzanita

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Eldorado National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Restoration - El Dorado Manzanita	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>This project proposes to protect and halt further OHV destruction to an occurrence of El Dorado manzanita, a Forest Service sensitive plant, and to enhance the recovery of the area that has been impacted by the OHV traffic. Off Highway Vehicles have traveled off of a Forest Service road, crushing and destroying the sensitive plants, as they have created an unauthorized hill climb. The Forest has attempted to stop this unauthorized use in the past. This project will further strengthen the closure by installing additional barrier rocks and replacing moved barrier rocks along a Forest Service road in order to eliminate the OHV use, by installing signs, placing straw mulch on the bare ground to allow the manzanita to recover, by conducting local education efforts, and by monitoring the site to assure the barrier is effective.</p> <p>OHV impact to this population of El Dorado Manzanita, one of only five occurrences of this rare plant on the Eldorado National Forest (a total of only nine occurrences are believed to remain in existence) was first observed in 2000. In 2005, the Forest installed a series of large barrier rocks along 250 feet of FS road 11N88 to prohibit continued use of the unauthorized route, and signs were installed. Following that effort, OHV users have winched the barrier rocks out of place several times to gain access, further damaging the manzanita, and have removed signs. In 2006 and 2007, road 11N88 was closed by a gate and Forest Order, and additional barrier rocks and signs were installed. Straw mulch was spread over eroding areas at that time to reduce erosion. During travel management planning, road 11N88 was not designated for public use, in order to protect the El Dorado manzanita population. In July 2008, the area appeared to be recovering with new sprouts. In January 2009, several barrier rocks were again moved and vehicle tracks were observed leading from the closed road up into the manzanita.</p> <p>The project will place new barrier rocks and will reinstall previously moved barrier rocks along the eastern edge of road 11N88 to prohibit unauthorized OHV use in the area. The rocks will be buried deeper where possible, so that they cannot be winched out of their position. Straw mulch or slash will be placed on the bare ground resulting from OHV impacts to reduce erosion and allow the manzanita to recover. The signs will be replaced to identify the site as a rehabilitation area, and a sign will be installed before the gate on road 11N88 at a point where a turn-around is feasible. This will inform the public that the road is closed ahead and that no turn around is available. The signage will also explain how few sites support this rare manzanita.</p> <p>Both a botanist and patrollers will provide on-going monitoring. Photo monitoring points will be established and reoccupied. In addition, a local volunteer from the area will notify the Forest if vehicle use is evident.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Botanist	15.000	300.000	DAY	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
	OHV Coordinator	5.000	300.000	DAY	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
	Other-Forest Protection Officer	32.000	150.000	DAY	4,800.00	0.00	4,800.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - El Dorado Manzanita

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-LEO	10.000	350.000	DAY	0.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
	Recreation Planner Notes : Sign design and layout	2.000	280.000	DAY	0.00	560.00	560.00
	Other-Eng Inspector	4.000	300.000	DAY	0.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
	Other-Restoration Crew	3.000	450.000		1,000.00	350.00	1,350.00
	Total for Staff				10,300.00	7,110.00	17,410.00
2	Contracts						
	Heavy Equipment Operator	4.000	600.000	DAY	2,000.00	400.00	2,400.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Barrier Rocks Notes : Incoludes transportation to the site	10.000	100.000	EA	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Other-Restored Area signs	5.000	50.000	EA	250.00	0.00	250.00
	Other-Road sign	1.000	350.000	EA	0.00	350.00	350.00
	Other-Mulch	10.000	20.000	EA	200.00	0.00	200.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				1,450.00	350.00	1,800.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Vehicle use Notes : Vehicle use for restoration crew and monitoring of effectiveness	9800.000	0.450	MI	3,150.00	1,260.00	4,410.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-Billing and record	1.000	2000.000		0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Total Program Expenses				16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - El Dorado Manzanita

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
 Application: Restoration - El Dorado Manzanita

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	10,300.00	7,110.00	17,410.00	
2	Contracts	2,000.00	400.00	2,400.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,450.00	350.00	1,800.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	3,150.00	1,260.00	4,410.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		16,900.00	11,120.00	28,020.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

This project is not expected to adversely affect wetlands, streams, creeks, or any threatened, endangered, or other special status species, based on the environmental analyses completed (2004 Cat Ex and 2006 DM). The project does not involve any streams, creeks or wetlands and is designed to improve water quality through reducing surface erosion. The restoration project is also designed to reduce the impacts from unauthorized motor vehicle use to a sensitive plant species (El Dorado Manzanita) and to restore the area where this plant has been growing.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

No cumulative impacts are expected from implementation of this project. The area that is being restored is not an area that is open to OHV travel, and so will not change overall use patterns or displace users. This project is designed to reduce the potential for cumulative watershed impacts.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

This project will not have adverse effects on steep slopes or highly erodible soils. The restoration efforts will include controlling vehicle travel onto the disturbed area, thus limiting further erosion.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

This project area does not include any State Scenic Highways nor is it visible from a State Scenic Highway.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or

cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

The project is not likely to cause indirect significant impacts. As described previously, the area that is being restored is not open to motor vehicle use and so will not change overall use patterns in the area or in other parts of the Eldorado National Forest.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[2004 Decision Memo](#)

[2006 Decison Memo](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 3

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Domestic water supply (4 points)
☐ Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points)
☐ Stream or other watercourse (3 points)
☐ Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)
☒ Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats [1]
☐ Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species
☒ Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species [1]

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

Unauthorized OHV use has damaged a population of El Dorado manzanita, a FS sensitive species, by creating a barren area 15 to 20 feet wide by 200 feet long with lateral incursions into the manzanita.

3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)
☐ Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)
☐ OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)
☐ Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)
☐ Management decision (1 point)
☐ Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)
☐ Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

Closure of 11N88 to protect population of El Dorado Manzanita Decision Memo, dated August 9, 2006
Decision Memo for the Installation of barriers, April 30, 2004

4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 8

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- ☒ Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- ☐ Use of native plants and materials
- ☒ Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- ☒ Educational signage
- ☐ Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

Install and replace barrier rocks to control vehicle travel; install signs at the restoration site to inform the public that the area is being restored, and install signs at the road closure to inform the public that the road is closed ahead and that there is no turn-around; use mulch to cover the barren area to reduce erosion, thus allowing for the recovery of the manzanita; conduct regular patrols to stop unauthorized activities and to identify if the closure has been breached, and monitor to determine the effectiveness of the closure and restoration in order to determine if changes are needed.

5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

Travel Management decision (signed April 2, 2008) which established a designated route system on the Eldorado National Forest. The impacted area and the road leading to the area are not open to public motor vehicle use.

6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
☐ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
☐ Other Grant funding (2 points)
☒ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

7. Public Input - Q 7.

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The project was developed through meetings with the Forest Botanist and residents of the area concerned about the ongoing incursions into the EL Dorado manzanita occurrence.

A notice was posted on the Eldorado National Forest website homepage on March 2, 2009, notifying the public that the Forest was developing a grant application and that comments in regards to that application were requested.

On March 2, 2009, approximately 300 letters and 600 emails were also mailed to individuals and groups interested in OHV recreation on the Forest. These letters notified our OHV users that our preliminary application was available for review and that comments on the application were welcome.

We also notified the public about the grant applications at a public meeting on April 2, 2009 that was held at the Eldorado NF Supervisors Office. On April 3, 2009, a stakeholder meeting was held at the Georgetown Ranger District.

Received 9 written comments as a result of this public outreach.

8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 1

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ 4 or more (4 points)

☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)

☒ 1 (1 point)

☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Volunteer homeowners in the Swansboro area will assist with spreading mulch and ongoing monitoring for evidence of OHV use on the closed road.

9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

☐ Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)

☐ Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)

☐ Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)

☐ Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

The road leading to the impacted area has been closed and gated and the road is not shown on the new Motor Vehicle Use Map. Signing is being provided to identify that the area is closed and being restored, and more effective barrier rocks are being placed.

11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 1

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Greater than 10 acres (5 points)
- ☐ 1 – 10 acres (3 points)
- ☒ Less than 1 acre (1 points)
- ☐ No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)